

# **S-3 Soldier to become father while deployed**

**By Pfc. Kenneth Honour**  
**Brigade Ops. Specialist**

My name is Pfc. Kenneth Honour and I work in the Fires Brigade's S-3 section. We're responsible for tracking battles and brigade movement while deployed to Baghdad.

Everything is going well for me here in Iraq. The camp I live on and the people I work with are better than I could ask for.

The deployment has only one drawback so far.

I am proud to announce that I have a new recruit joining my family. My fiancée Shelly and I are expecting a son in the near future. Unfortunately, due to my deployment, I am not going to be there when he is born.

I know that I am not alone in my struggle because I realize many Soldiers have been in my shoes before – dealing with a deployment instead of being with the woman they love and treasure.

This is supposed to be one of the most wonderful and magical events one can experience in life. Shelly and I plan on getting married when I redeploy. I look forward to the time when I will no longer have to miss the day to day, little things, like seeing her smile, listening to her laugh and enjoying her hugs.

Other Soldiers in the S-3 shop have similar hardships. Being away from your wife, children, parents, siblings or other family members and friends can be hard for one to endure. We are all missing birthdays, anniversaries and other holidays this year.

Shelly and I, like many couples, stay in touch many ways. I write her e-mails constantly, send handwritten letters and call frequently as well. It is a great way to stay up on daily events, keep morale up and stay close as a couple.

I know that having a child of my own will bring me great joy, and I will be so excited when I hear he's been born. When I get home I will meet my son and will be getting married to a very strong and smart woman.

I'm looking forward to the day I go home, but in order to do that we have to complete our mission. After enduring all the hardships of deployment, I look forward to the challenge of fatherhood and all the joys it will bring.